



### TODAY'S MAIN POINT

Faith isn't just about what we hear. It's what we do.

### TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE(S)

James 1:19-27

### TEACHING GOAL

Students will understand that God's Word is meant to change how they live, and they will identify one practical way they can begin obeying what they hear from Scripture.

#### Let's Break the Ice:

- What's your morning routine every day before you leave the house?
- What is something people say is important to do, but many people ignore?

**LEADER NOTE:** Start your discussion by sharing the context of the Book of James (you should have done this last week, but you may have new students, or it could be a good refresher. With this being week 3, feel free to ask someone who's been here to share what they remember.):

*The book of James was written by James, the brother of Jesus, who became a leader in the early church in Jerusalem. He wrote this letter to Christians who had been scattered to different places because of persecution, and many of them were going through hard and stressful situations. James wanted to help them understand what real faith looks like in everyday life, especially when things get difficult. Even though this letter was written a long time ago, it's still really helpful for us today because we also face pressure, temptation, and tough choices that test our faith.*

#### Bible Study:

- Read Together or ask someone to summarize: **As a group, read James 1:19-27** (Telos Bible Pg. 1213)

#### Discussion Questions:

- According to James 1:22, what warning does James give about simply hearing God's Word?
- In James 1:23-24, what example does James use to describe someone who hears God's Word but doesn't obey it?
- Why do you think it's easy to listen to the Bible or a sermon but not actually change anything in our lives?
- What is one thing you've learned from the Bible that you know you should practice more?

- How can friends or a small group help each other live out what God teaches?

### Make it Real:

- James says it's possible to **deceive ourselves** by hearing God's Word but not obeying it. Why do you think people sometimes convince themselves they're doing fine spiritually even when nothing in their life is changing? (*Leader note: Be prepared to meet your students with the truth of the Gospel here. Slow down and lean in*)

### (GROW DEEPER - OPTIONAL) Discipleship Moment:

**Put it to practice:** Choose **one thing** from this week's message that you will actually put into practice this week.

At the next group gathering, be ready to share what you tried and how it went.

**Partner Check-In:** Pair students up and have them commit to checking in with their partner at some point during the week or during your next gathering.

### Prayer:

- Close with group prayer
  - Take prayer requests
  - Celebrate what God has done over the last week